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EXCISE

FRANCE/PRC/TAIWAN: DISSOLVING TIANANMEN BANS

Premier Rocard met on January 18 with the Chinese minister of planning, the highest ranking PRC official to visit Europe since the Tiananmen crackdown, according to press reports.

Comment: The resumption of ministerial-level PRC-European exchanges, sanctioned by an EC decision in October, follows Foreign Minister Qian's November visit here and Japanese Finance Minister Hashimoto's recent visit to Beijing. The PRC ministerial visit to France also follows the January 6-10 visit to Taiwan by the French minister of industry.

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